



# Co-optimizing Distribution Network Adequacy and Security by Simultaneous Utilization of Network Reconfiguration and Distributed Energy Resources

ISSN 1751-8644  
doi: 0000000000  
www.ietdl.org

Seyed-Alireza Ahmadi<sup>1</sup>, Vahid Vahidinasab<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Mohammad Sadegh Ghazizadeh<sup>1</sup>, Kamyar Mehran<sup>3</sup>, Damian Giaouris<sup>2</sup>, Phil Taylor<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Electrical Engineering, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran

<sup>2</sup> School of Engineering, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

<sup>3</sup> School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK

\* E-mail: vahid.vahidinasab@ieee.org

**Abstract:** With the evolution of smart grids, penetration of distributed energy resources (DERs) in the distribution networks has become ever increasing problem. To improve network reliability, the complexity of the two important aspects of adequacy and security must be well assessed. There is a trade-off between adequacy of DERs, and the distribution network security, i.e. improving the adequacy can reduce the security. In this paper, enhancement of the distribution network adequacy and security (DNAS) is proposed. In this regard, capacity of simultaneous reconfiguration and DERs sizing are utilized to improve the adequacy and security of an active distribution networks. In the reconfiguration process, graph theory concept is adopted to implement a fast reconfiguration method. Since DERs are active, a combined bus and line security index is used to overcome security concerns of their existence. The IEEE 33-bus distribution network as a widely used standard test system in reconfiguration studies, and a practical 83-bus distribution network of Taiwan Power Company (TPC) which is a part of a real distribution network, are used to test the performance of the proposed method. The simulation results demonstrate the performance of the proposed framework.

## Nomenclature

### Abbreviations

The abbreviations used in this paper are listed below and sorted in alphabetical order for quick reference.

ABC	Artificial Bee Colony
AENS	Average energy not supplied
AI	Adequacy index
BSI	Bus voltage stability index
CAIDI	Coustomer average interruption duration index
DER	Distributed energy resource
DNAS	Distribution network adequacy and security
ENS	Energy not supplied
AENS	Average Energy not supplied
HBBO	Human behavior-based optimization
LCU	Line capacity usage
LSI	Line stability index
MAIDI	Momentary average interruption duration index
OVSI	Overall voltage stability index
SAIDI	System average interruption duration index
SAIFI	System average interruption frequency index
MAIFI	Momentary average interruption frequency index

### Other Symbols

$q$	total number of lines in the network
$p$	total number of buses in the network
$s_t$	Open/close status of $t$ -th switch
$SSM$	Switch status matrix
$V_s$	Voltage of the sending bus
$V_r$	Voltage of the receiving bus
$S_r$	Complex power at the receiving end
$P_r$	Active load at the receiving end
$Q_r$	Reactive load at the receiving end
$r_{ij}$	resistance of the line between buses $i$ and $j$
$x_{ij}$	reactance of the line between buses $i$ and $j$
$\theta$	Line impedance angle
$\delta$	Difference between voltage angles of sending and receiving bus
$I_{ij}$	Current flow of the line between buses $i$ and $j$
$P_{loss}$	Network power loss
$Cost_{total}$	Total cost of power generation
$Cost_{Grid}$	Cost of upstream centralized power plant
$Cost_{DER_k}$	Cost of $k$ -th DER
$C_{Grid}$	Cost coefficient of the upstream network
$C_{DER}$	Cost coefficient of the $k$ -th DER
$P_{Grid}$	Amount of power generated by the upstream network

$P_{DER}$  Amount of power generated by the  $k$ -th DER

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Aims and Scope

High quality services to the end-users and continuity of electric power supply are the major targets in power network management. In this regard, assessing network reliability plays a pivotal role [1] such that the power delivery to the end-users must be continuously assessed, and decisions and preventive actions must be taken to increase the reliability indices of the network. Reliability assessment has commonly two major aspects of adequacy and security [2]. Adequacy, i.e. fulfilling the load demand of the end-users in all times, is concerned with static operating condition, rather than power systems dynamics and transient disturbances [2]. Widely-used indices for the adequacy including system average interruption duration index (SAIDI) and system average interruption frequency index (SAIFI), are used to show the network ability in providing necessary facilities to generate adequate energy with good delivery to the actual end-users' load point [2, 3]. On the other side, security deals with network responses to all kinds of disturbances so is concerned with the network dynamics and transient operating conditions such as voltage instability in the event of major generation or/and transmission outage [2]. The ever expansion of smart grid makes the reliability assessment more complex and challenging. Increasing distributed energy resources (DERs) improve the power supply adequacy due to their inexhaustible nature, but it can reduce the security as a result of power injection and power flow increase of the lines in the distribution network [4]. To achieve an acceptable and optimal reliability, the old-fashion "fit and forget" strategy can no longer be applied in the modern smart networks. The DERs output powers must be frequently changed in different time horizons and operating conditions, where the network must be continuously reconfigured, i.e. network reconfiguration, to address such changes when needed [5].

### 1.2 Literature Survey

Network reconfiguration is represented as the action of changing topological structure of feeders by intelligently changing the status of tie and sectionalizing switches from open to close and vice versa, without altering the radial structure of the network. The reconfiguration must be done for a number of reasons including loss reduction [6, 7], voltage profile improvement [8, 9], reliability enhancement [10, 11], etc. With active DERs in the network, reconfiguration will become more complex especially if security is a concern.

A great deal of work in the literature focuses on enhancing the network reliability through network reconfiguration. In [12], for reliability enhancement, a reconfiguration technique is proposed using a novel neighborhood search algorithm. In [13], to improve reliability and reduce system losses, reconfiguration problem has been modeled in a binary structure where a binary particle swarm optimization is used to solve the problem. The reliability index used in this reference is energy not supplied (ENS). In [14] to increase the reliability and reduce the losses, the number of open lines has been considered equal to the number of tie switches to prove the radiality of the network. The paper only uses ENS as the reliability index in the formulations. In [15], Genetic Algorithm (GA) is used to optimize the reconfiguration problem where the reliability indices SAIFI and ENS are used in the problem formulations.

In [16], by considering network reconfiguration in the expansion planning problem an aggregated model is proposed and particle swarm optimization is used to solve the problem. In [17], enhanced GA is used to optimize a function with single loop formation strategy that provides only radial topologies. In their proposed approach, reliability and power loss are improved where the indices SAIDI and ENS are used to validate the problem formulation. In [18–22], power loss and reliability indices such as SAIFI, SAIDI, and ENS are considered as the power quality indicators and improved through

network reconfiguration procedure. In [23], the problem of distribution network reconfiguration is modeled using a mixed integer linear programming approach to reduce power losses and improve network reliability.

In [24], for the network reconfiguration, a binary firefly algorithm is implemented to find the location of switches needed to be open. SAIFI, and momentary average interruption duration index (MAIDI) indices are used for the reliability evaluation. A further study is also proposed to investigate the effect of DER presence in the problem.

In [25], by considering DERs an objective function is presented to enhance the reliability by minimizing the expected customer interruption costs and the power losses. To solve the presented multi-objective problem, modified artificial bee colony (ABC) optimization technique is used. Similarly, in [26–28], new frameworks for network reconfiguration of distribution network with integrated DERs are proposed to reduce power losses and improve reliability indices. In Table 1, a taxonomy of these studies are demonstrated.

### 1.3 Contributions

In all the studies mentioned in the previous section, only adequacy aspect of reliability is considered in the formulations. However, presence of DERs (and resulting power injection) and power flow increase of the lines in the distribution network can reduce security. Moreover, to establish a reliable and secure active network where DERs are generating power, their output power must be optimally determined. Therefore, in this paper, to consider the distribution network adequacy and security (DNAS) enhancement and loss reduction, DERs sizing are carried out simultaneously with the network reconfiguration. Basic concepts of graph theory is adopted for the suggested reconfiguration method. To address security concerns of DERs in the distribution network, a combined line and bus security index is then utilized. The indices SAIFI, SAIDI, and ENS are used to assess the adequacy aspect. To solve the overall objective function, a powerful new optimization tool, human behavior-based optimization (HBBO) [29], is employed. The main contributions of this paper can be summarized as follows:

- Reconfiguration and DERs sizing are carried out in tandem via an optimization problem to improve DNAS, a reliability enhancement from both aspects of adequacy and security,
- Graph theory is used for the design of the suggested reconfiguration method.
- A combined bus and line security index is used to overcome security concerns of DERs existence in the distribution network,
- A new optimization technique, HBBO, is used for solving the optimization problem.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows: the problem formulation consists of reconfiguration method, reliability indices of adequacy and security, DERs presence consideration and overall objective function will be described in Section 2. In Section 3, HBBO will be described and in Section 4, test results and discussions will be given. Finally, in Section 5, the paper will be concluded.

## 2 Problem formulation

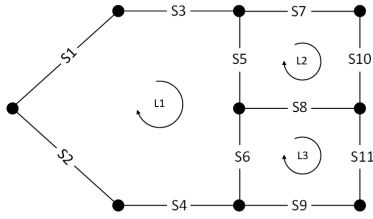
The aim of this section is to describe the problem formulation and the objective function. The objective function will be eventually used in the optimization problem.

### 2.1 Reconfiguration Method

To perform reconfiguration, the status of sectionalizing and tie switches must be intelligently changed. The most important criteria to consider is maintaining the radial structure of the distribution network. In some researches, reconfiguration has been performed in a binary model and optimization methods opt the best structure through  $2^n$  network configuration in a system with  $n$  switches [30, 31]. This method costs a great deal of time burden and likely

**Table 1** Researches conducted on reliability improvement of distribution networks through reconfiguration

Ref.	DER Consideration	Reliability Aspects		Test Systems
		Adequacy	Security	
[10]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-AENS	NO	33-bus
[11]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-AENS	NO	69-bus
[12]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-AENS	NO	33-bus
[13]	NO	ENS	NO	33-bus, 123-bus
[14]	NO	ENS	NO	69-bus
[15]	NO	ENS	NO	33-bus, 69-bus
[17]	NO	EENS-SAIFI-SAIDI	NO	33-bus, 69-bus
[18]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-ENS	NO	17-bus, 33-bus
[19]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-ENS	NO	43-bus, 136-bus
[20]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-EENS	NO	33-bus, 69-bus
[21]	NO	ENS	NO	33-bus, 70-bus
[22]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-ENS	NO	33-bus, 69-bus
[23]	NO	SAIFI-SAIDI-AENS	NO	33-bus, 83-bus
[24]	YES	SAIFI-SAIDI	NO	47-bus
[25]	YES	SAIFI-SAIDI	NO	69-bus
[26]	YES	SAIFI-EENS	NO	44-bus
[27]	YES	SAIFI-AENS	NO	32-bus
[28]	YES	SAIFI-AENS	NO	33-bus, 69-bus
<b>This Paper</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>SAIFI-SAIDI-AENS</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>33-bus, 83-bus</b>



**Fig. 1:** Example of a simple network for analyzing the radial structure.

to trap in the local optimal solution. In the reconfiguration problem suggested here, graph theory is used to solve the said problems. Let each network configuration be a graph in which the network lines are the edges and the buses are the nodes of this graph. Since all the network configurations obtained from reconfiguration procedure must maintain its radial structure, and also all the buses must be supplied, it is concluded that (using the definition of tree in graph theory [32]), the graph of the reconfigured network must be a tree. Therefore, the following conditions must be met in each network structure post reconfiguration: 1. If in a network, there was  $p$  buses and  $q$  lines, the following condition must be met:

$$q = p - 1 \quad (1)$$

2. No loop should exist in the network configuration. If open/close status of the switches and consequently the status of all lines be known and available, the status matrix of switches is defined as:

$$SSM = [s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n] \quad (2)$$

For open switches  $s = 0$  and for close switches  $s = 1$ . With the same approach, all system loops can be defined. For example, consider network configuration of Fig. 1, status matrix of switches in each loop (without basic loop) is described as:

$$L_1 = [s_1, s_3, s_5, s_6, s_4, s_2] \quad (3)$$

$$L_2 = [s_5, s_7, s_{10}, s_8] \quad (4)$$

$$L_3 = [s_6, s_8, s_{11}, s_9] \quad (5)$$

$$L_{1,2} = (L_1 \cup L_2) - (L_1 \cap L_2) \quad (6)$$

$$L_{1,3} = (L_1 \cup L_3) - (L_1 \cap L_3) \quad (7)$$

$$L_{2,3} = (L_2 \cup L_3) - (L_2 \cap L_3) \quad (8)$$

Now for satisfying the conditions in (1) and (2), in each loop one switch must be open and no common open switches between two or more loops must exist. Therefore, the system in Fig. 1 is radial when the following condition is met:

$$\text{sum}\{\text{prod}(L_1), \text{prod}(L_2), \text{prod}(L_3), \dots\} = 0 \quad (9)$$

The above method for proving the radiality of the network is applicable in all networks, which can also provide simplicity and less computational burden for the reconfiguration algorithm. The optimization algorithm will select only one switch from each loop and if the condition in (9) met, it considers this network configuration feasible and continues the process. The algorithm selects new set of open switches from each loop and continues the process until it reaches the global optima.

## 2.2 Reliability Assessment

As previously mentioned, adequacy deals with satisfying load demand of end-users in all times and is concerned with static operating condition where security deals with the network responses to all disturbances and is concerned with the dynamics or transient operating condition of the system, e.g. major generation and/or transmission outage causing voltage instability. In Section 1, we pointed out that the previous work in the reliability enhancement of the network using reconfiguration [10–17, 24], only focus on the adequacy aspect of reliability. Here we consider both aspects of DNAS to achieve a comprehensive reliability improvement.

**2.2.1 Adequacy:** Adequacy is commonly evaluated with four most popular indices namely SAIFI, SAIDI, CAIDI, and AENS. Their definitions are summarized below [33].

SAIFI represents the amount of interruption that an average end-user faces during a specific time. SAIFI is formulated as [2]:

$$SAIFI = \frac{\text{number of end-user interruptions}}{\text{total number of end-user served}} \quad (10)$$

SAIDI represents the time duration of the interruptions that the end-user faces. SAIDI is formulated as [2]:

$$SAIDI = \frac{\text{sum of end-user interruption durations}}{\text{total number of end-users}} \quad (11)$$

Note that the above adequacy indices do not provide any information about the *not supplied energy of the end-users* during an incident and only concentrate on the interruptions experienced by them. Therefore, in the reliability assessment of the problem formulation, AENS index is modeled as [2]:

$$AENS = \frac{\text{energy not served during interruptions}}{\text{total number of end-user served}} \quad (12)$$

To improve adequacy, the indices must be minimized. In this paper as DERs exists, both SAIFI and AENS indices are minimized in the optimization procedure by minimizing the following adequacy index of reliability (AI):

$$AI = c_1 \times SAIFI + c_2 \times AENS \quad (13)$$

where,  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are the importance factors and valued at 0.5 in this study.

**2.2.2 Security:** Voltage security (especially voltage stability) is the most important factor of the network security that can limit available power sending capability [34]. To include voltage stability in the problem formulation, a combined index for both bus and line stability is used. The combined index is written just after the expression of each of bus voltage stability index (BSI) and line stability index (LSI). For bus voltage stability, the approach presented

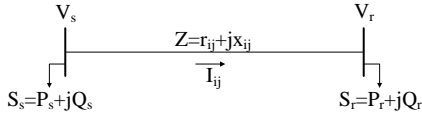


Fig. 2: Electric equivalent of a radial distribution feeder.

in [35] is used to identify the weakest voltage of buses in the network. Consider the electric equivalent of a radial distribution feeder, depicted in Fig. 2. In this equivalent network, based on the load flow technique presented in [36] for radial distribution networks, the following equations can be written:

$$I_{ij} = \frac{V_s - V_r}{r_{ij} + jx_{ij}} \quad (14)$$

$$I_{ij} = \frac{P_r - jQ_r}{V_r^*} \quad (15)$$

where,  $I_{ij}$  is the current flowing through the line between buses  $i$  and  $j$ . Also,  $V_s$  and  $V_r$  are the sending and receiving bus voltages, respectively. Moreover,  $P_r$  and  $Q_r$  are active and reactive loads at receiving end, and also  $r_{ij}$  and  $x_{ij}$  are the resistance and reactance of the line between buses  $i$  and  $j$ . Using (14) and (15), after some calculations (see Appendix), the following equation is obtained:

$$|V_r|^4 - B|V_r|^2 + C = 0 \quad (16)$$

where,

$$B = |V_s|^2 - 2(P_r r_{ij} - Q_r x_{ij}) \quad (17)$$

$$C = (P_r^2 + Q_r^2)(r_{ij}^2 + x_{ij}^2) \quad (18)$$

From (16), it can be concluded that for a feasible load flow solution in the radial distribution network the following criteria must be met:

$$B^2 - 4C \geq 0 \quad (19)$$

Based on the above equation, BSI for  $i$ -th bus is written as follows:

$$BSI_i = |V_s|^4 - 4 \times (P_r x_{ij} - Q_r r_{ij})^2 - 4 \times |V_s|^2 \times (P_r r_{ij} + Q_r x_{ij})^2 \quad (20)$$

The best condition for the stable network operation achieves when the BSI values become closer to one. The value of less than zero for BSI, means instability in network operating condition. In the proposed security improvement method, the value of BSI is calculated for each bus and, the bus with the lowest BSI value will be then put in the first part of the final voltage stability index.

For LSI, the approach presented in [37] is used to identify the weakest line in the network which is more likely to threat system stability when load increases. In this way, power flow equations for  $\pi$  model representation of the line is utilized and the following equation for complex power at receiving end is obtained:

$$S_r = \frac{|V_s||V_r|}{|Z|} \angle(\theta - \delta) - \frac{V_r^2}{|Z|} \angle\theta \quad (21)$$

where,  $|Z|$  and  $\theta$  are the line impedance amplitude and angle respectively.  $S_r$  is the complex power of receiving end.  $\delta$  is the difference between sending and receiving bus voltage angles. By separating the real and reactive powers from (21), the following equations

can be written:

$$P_r = \frac{|V_s||V_r|}{|Z|} \cos(\theta - \delta) - \frac{V_r^2}{|Z|} \cos\theta \quad (22)$$

$$Q_r = \frac{|V_s||V_r|}{|Z|} \sin(\theta - \delta) - \frac{V_r^2}{|Z|} \sin\theta \quad (23)$$

using (23), the voltage at the receiving end can be calculated as follows:

$$V_r = \frac{V_s \sin(\theta - \delta) \pm \sqrt{[V_s \sin(\theta - \delta)]^2 - 4Q_r x_{ij}}}{2 \sin\theta} \quad (24)$$

To have real values for  $V_r$  in (24), the following criteria must be met:

$$[V_s \sin(\theta - \delta)]^2 \geq 4Q_r x_{ij} \quad (25)$$

or,

$$\frac{4Q_r x_{ij}}{[V_s \sin(\theta - \delta)]^2} \leq 1 \quad (26)$$

Based on (26), LSI for the line between buses  $i$  and  $j$  can be written as follows:

$$LSI_{ij} = (4 \times x_{ij} \times Q_r) / (V_s \sin(\theta - \delta))^2 \quad (27)$$

LSI models the effect of line stability on voltage stability. Based on the mentioned BSI and LSI, voltage collapse can be accurately predicted. Until LSI value becomes lower than one, the system is stable. Values of one or higher for the LSI means an unstable network. It is evident that BSI and LSI are the opposite of each other i.e. upper value for BSI is more desirable while the lower value for LSI is better. In this paper, these two indices are combined and overall voltage stability index (OVSI) is obtained as follows:

$$OVSI = c_3 \times \max\{LSI\} + c_4 / \min\{BSI\} \quad (28)$$

where,  $c_3$  and  $c_4$  are the weighting factors and valued at 0.5 in this study. In order to improve the security aspect of reliability, OVSI must be minimized.

### 2.3 Network Power Loss

Network power loss for each configuration is typically calculated by the equation [6]:

$$P_{loss} = \sum r_{ij} \times I_{ij}^2 \quad (29)$$

In the problem, minimization of power loss is another objective. Forward-backward sweep load flow is used in this paper to perform load flow analysis needed in the problem formulation. Forward-backward sweep load flow is suitable for load flow calculation in the distribution networks [38].

### 2.4 Cost of Power Generation

Minimizing the total cost of power generation or reducing the operation cost, is an important goal of the distribution system management. Let the cost of  $k$ -th DER be equal to  $Cost_{DER_k}$  and the



cost of upstream centralized power plants be equal to  $Cost_{Grid}$ , then the total power generation costs is calculated as:

$$Cost_{total} = Cost_{Grid} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{DER}} Cost_{DER_k} \quad (30)$$

where  $N_{DER}$  is the number of DERs and:

$$Cost_{Grid} = C_{Grid} \times P_{Grid} \quad (31)$$

$$Cost_{DER_k} = C_{DER_k} \times P_{DER_k} \quad (32)$$

where  $C_{Grid}$  and  $C_{DER_k}$  are the cost coefficients of network and  $k$ -th DER respectively.  $P_{Grid}$  and  $P_{DER_k}$  are the amount of power taken from the upstream network and  $k$ -th DER, respectively.

### 2.5 Overall Objective Function of the Problem

Objective function of the problem is to find suitable status of switches and sizes of DERs that can improve network reliability and reduce power losses. According to the reconfiguration method discussed in Subsection 2.1, only one open switch in each loop must be optimally selected where the optimal sizes of DERs must be also found. As a result, the said problem becomes an optimization problem in which the decision variable matrix is:

$$X = [OS_1, OS_2, \dots, OS_i, PG_1, PG_2, \dots, PG_j] \quad (33)$$

where  $OS_i$  is the selected switch in loop  $i$  that should be opened to perform reconfiguration process and  $PG_j$  is the size of  $j$ -th DER power generation. To improve system reliability, in Subsection II.B, DNAS aspects were discussed and their indices were presented. For improving network reliability OVSI value must be minimized and for reducing power loss and operation cost, values of  $P_{loss}$  and  $Cost_{total}$  must be minimized. As the values of OVSI,  $P_{loss}$  and  $Cost_{total}$  depend on the network configuration and DERs sizes, they can be expressed as a function of  $X$ , i.e.  $OVSI(X)$ ,  $P_{loss}(X)$ , and  $Cost_{total}(X)$ . The overall objective function of the problem is then described as:

$$OF = (w_1 \times AI(X)) + (w_2 \times OVSI(X)) + (w_3 \times P_{loss}(X)) + (w_4 \times Cost_{total}(X)) \quad (34)$$

where  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$ ,  $w_3$ , and  $w_4$  are the weighting factors of the objective functions. Minimizing the overall objective function is an optimization problem. In this paper, a new powerful optimization algorithm, human behavior-based optimization (HBBO) [29] method is used which will be described in the subsequent section.

## 3 Human behavior-based optimization

HBBO is a novel meta-heuristic optimization method aiming at artificially simulating the behavior of a human in the pursuit of his goals [29]. Meta-heuristic algorithms are a kind of random algorithm used to find optimal value of a function. Optimization methods and algorithms are categorized into two groups of exact algorithms and approximate algorithms. Exact algorithms are capable of finding the global optimal solution, but they are not efficient enough for difficult optimization problems and their execution time expands exponentially with the dimensions of the problems.

Approximate algorithms are capable of finding good (near optimal) solutions at short time for complex optimization problems. Approximate algorithms are also classified into two categories: heuristic algorithms, and meta-heuristic algorithms. The two main problems of heuristic algorithms, poor performance for escaping from local optima, and fast converging to these points. Meta-heuristic algorithms are presented to solve these problems. In fact, meta-heuristic algorithms are one of a kind of approximate optimization algorithms that have solutions to escape from the local

optima and can be applied to a wide range of issues. Various types of this algorithm have been developed in the last decades, and HBBO seems suitable for power system problems which has been recently introduced.

Learning via education, correcting behavior via consulting and also the probability of changing the way of thinking are some major human behaviors which HBBO implements [29]. This optimization method consists of five steps:

### Step 1 - Initialization:

In this step, initial individuals that are problem decision variables matrix are created and randomly spread among the fields. For our problem, an individual is just the matrix of decision variables ( $X$ ).

$$Individual = [OS_1, OS_2, \dots, OS_i, PG_1, PG_2, \dots, PG_j] \quad (35)$$

### Step 2 - Education:

Simulation of improvement through education is the goal of this step. In this way, the best individual of each field, or an expert individual, is found and other individuals of the field will try to learn from them by moving toward them. This movement is not a direct move, and the individual finds a place around the expert from  $r_{min}$  to  $r_{max}$ . To perform this step, a spherical coordinate system for  $N$ -dimensional Euclidean space is implemented.

### Step 3 - Consultation:

Finding random advisors by all the individuals and consulting with them is the core to the consultation. To briefly explain the consultation procedure, an advisor randomly selects some decision variables from the individual variable matrix and change them to what he thinks is better. In advanced mode of HBBO, after changing variables, the objective function of this new set of variables will be calculated and in case of achieving better value the consultation will be effective and the variables will be updated.

### Step 4 - Field Changing Probability:

In this step, using a rank probability method, in some fields an individual's field may be changed to model the changes that people may experience during their lives.

### Step 5 - Finalization:

As the variables matrix of the individuals changes during each iteration of the algorithm, in this step, individuals' fitness function will be updated. In addition, if the stopping conditions met, the algorithm will be stopped.

The reconfiguration model proposed in this paper is a nonlinear formulation and therefore a meta-heuristic optimization technique is selected to solve it. This kind of optimization techniques do not guarantee to obtain the global optima and may trapped in a local one, but having the advantage of formulating the complete detail in a nonlinear model. It is also possible to linearize the model and neglect some features in it, and then solve it with a mathematical approach to guarantee reaching the global optima. In this way, some simplifications are made in the formulation which decrease the accuracy of the obtained result. There is always a controversy in choosing between these two approaches but for the large models where linearization causes the significant error, using meta-heuristic approaches is a better choice. For this reason, meta-heuristic approach is selected here to conduct the optimization task.

## 4 Simulation results and discussion

Comprehensive test studies are carried out in this section to validate the proposed approach using two practical networks, i.e. the IEEE 33-bus network and 83-bus network of TPC.

The process of solving an optimization problem has three stages, each of which has different steps. In each step, some activities must be done to complete that step. First step is a preparation in which we need to get a clear understanding of the problem of interest, and set the design objectives of the optimization algorithm. The next step is the selection strategy, and the definition of performance measurement criteria. In this step, the problem objective function must be defined. The final stage is the implementation of the optimization algorithm according to the designed objective function in the previous step.

The procedure of HHBO algorithm implementation for the reconfiguration problem in this study is described as follows:

**Algorithm 1:** HHBO for Reconfiguration problem

**Result:** Finding open switches and DERs' output powers  
**Data:** Network loops, maximum output power of DERs, and HHBO parameters  
**Initialization:**  
 1) Create individuals and randomly spread them among the fields.  
 2) Find expert individual of each field  
**while** Stopping criteria are not met **do**  
   **for** All individuals **do**  
     **Education step:** Move toward the expert individual  
     **Consultation step:**  
       1) Find a random advisor from the whole society  
       2) Change randomly selected variables of the individual by same value of the advisor's variable  
       3) Check the following criteria and do the corresponding action:  
         **if** New set of variables has better OF value **then**  
           Change the individual's variable matrix  
         **else**  
           Keep the individual's variable matrix to its previous value  
         **end**  
     **end**  
   **end**  
   **for** All Fields **do**  
     **Field changing step:**  
       1) Calculate the field changing probability (P)  
       2) Generate a random number and check the following criteria and do the corresponding action:  
         **if** Random number  $\leq P$  **then**  
           Select one random individual and change its field  
         **else**  
           Do nothing  
         **end**  
     **end**  
   **for** All individuals **do**  
     **Finalizing:** Recalculate the individual's OF  
   **end**  
**end**

To show the advantage of using HHBO algorithm in our study, a comparison with GA is carried out. For GA, Matlab optimization toolbox with adaptive feasible mutation and scattered crossover is used. The population and generations size are set to 150, and 30 respectively. Other control parameters of GA are set to be the same as default values of the toolbox. Parameters of HHBO are given in Table 2.

**Table 2** HHBO parameters

Parameter	Value
Population size	150
Field size	30
$k_1$	0
$k_2$	2.5
$\sigma$	0.2
Optimization mode	advance

#### 4.1 IEEE 33-bus radial distribution network

The IEEE 33-bus network with 12.66 kV voltage level [39] is selected to conduct the first part of test studies. The line and load data of the candidate test network is found in [39]. It is assumed that all lines have sectionalizing switches, so there are 32 sectionalizing switches, and 5 tie switches in the network. This network with the location of its DERs is shown in Fig. 3. To test the proposed algorithm in different conditions, the three following scenarios are considered:

Scenario 1: Standard network without performing network reconfiguration.

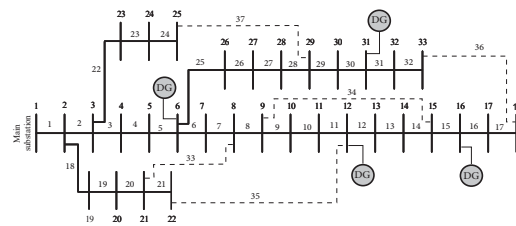
Scenario 2: Performing the proposed reconfiguration approach for the test system without utilizing DERs.

Scenario 3: Similar to scenario 2, but with utilizing DERs in the network.

For reliability assessment, failure rates of the lines are calculated based on their impedance value. In this way, the line with the maximum impedance value has the maximum failure rate of 0.4 (failure/year) and the line with the minimum impedance value has the minimum failure rate of 0.1 (failure/year). For other lines, failure rates are calculated proportionally based on these minimum and maximum rates. Repair time for all lines is supposed to be 8 hours. Other network components such as DERs, transformers, circuit breakers, etc. are assumed to be fully reliable. End-user data are also given in Table 3.

**Table 3** End-user data of IEEE 33-bus network

Bus Number	Number of End-Users	Bus Number	Number of End-Users
1	450	17	350
2	350	18	400
3	550	19	300
4	300	20	400
5	300	21	500
6	950	22	400
7	950	23	1450
8	500	24	1250
9	500	25	250
10	350	26	450
11	250	27	250
12	350	28	550
13	500	29	850
14	250	30	750
15	400	31	1000
16	250	32	250



**Fig. 3:** IEEE 33-bus network with DERs locations.

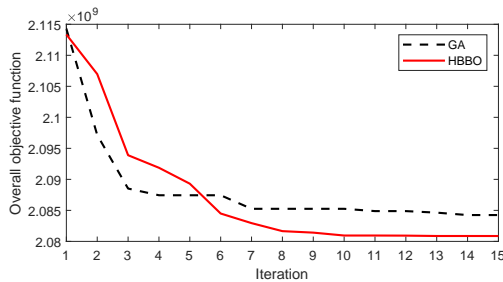
To use the reconfiguration method expressed in Subsection 2.1, the network loops must be specified. At first, it is assumed that all switches are closed. After the optimization algorithm procedure starts, one switch from each loop is selected by considering the criteria discussed in Subsection 2.1, mainly by satisfying the criteria of equation (9) which guarantees the radiality of the network. As seen in Fig. 3, IEEE 33-bus system has five loops. Optimization algorithms are to find one independent switch from each loop in which the overall objective function (20) becomes minimum. By applying HHBO and GA, the results are obtained. Open switches number that represent the configuration of the network, reliability indices of

**Table 4** Results of the conducted study on IEEE 33-bus distribution network

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2		Scenario 3	
		HBBO	GA	HBBO	GA
Open switches	33-34-35-36-37	7-9-14-32-37	7-11-14-32-37	7-9-14-36-28	7-9-14-32-28
SAIFI (failure/year)	1.2672	1.1404	1.1449	1.0469	1.0605
SAIDI (hour)	10.1372	9.1229	9.1588	8.3753	8.4839
AENS	1.9728	1.9690	1.9737	1.8050	1.8311
OVSI	0.6305	0.65515	0.65515	0.61211	0.60905
LSI	0.0208	0.02118	0.02118	0.02066	0.02065
BSI	0.8063	0.7757	0.7757	0.83086	0.8351
Power loss (kW)	202.67	139.55	141.21	86.87	91.89
Voltage of the weakest bus(%)	90.38	93.78	93.78	95.44	95.52
LCU of the weakest line	1	0.9827	0.9827	0.7835	0.8225

SAIFI, SAIDI, and AENS, and also OVSI, LSI, BSI, weakest bus voltage, and line capacity usage (LCU) ratio of the weakest line, which has the highest current, for the obtained configuration, to the normal operation configuration, and finally total network power loss are tabulated in Table 4.

For scenarios 3, where DERs are generating power in the network, output power generation of DERs obtained from optimization algorithms and their maximum sizes are given in Table 5. The execution times of HBBO and GA algorithms for this scenario are 18.12 and 19.46 seconds. The evolutionary progresses of objective function for GA and HBBO are depicted in Fig. 4. For all scenarios, the voltage profiles of the selected network using HBBO method are shown in Fig. 5.



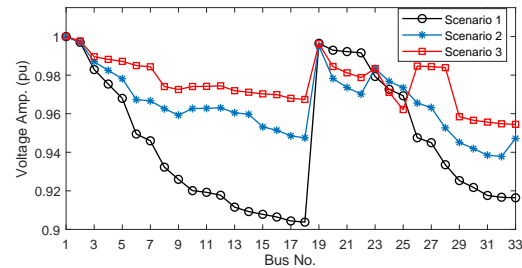
**Fig. 4:** Evolutionary progress of objective function values for GA and HBBO.

**Table 5** Maximum power generation and optimal sizes of DERs in 33-bus distribution network (KW)

DER Locations	Maximum Possible Generation	Scenario 3	
		HBBO	GA
DER on bus 6	500	183.20	32.84
DER on bus 12	300	211.55	101.18
DER on bus 16	300	183.54	271.45
DER on bus 31	500	479.26	417.98

From data given in Table III, by comparing scenario 1 with scenario 2, it can be seen that reconfiguration helps improving network reliability and reducing power losses. In addition, by considering the security aspect in reliability, minimum voltage of the network buses is increased without threatening security indices of OVSI, LSI, and BSI. This means more voltage security.

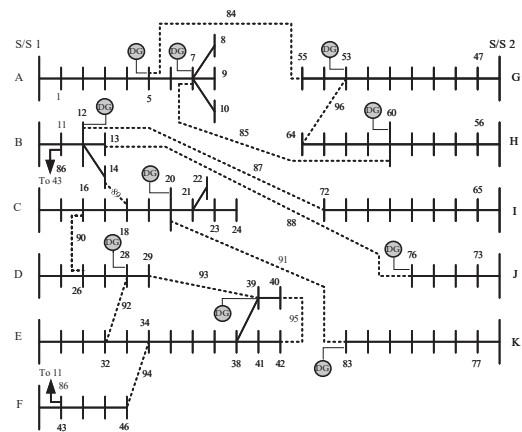
In scenario 3, the DERs are present actively and their generation sizes are optimally selected by HBBO and GA, a trade-off between security and power generation of DERs takes place. By looking at Tables 4, and 5, it is observed that the DERs are producing power and the power loss of the system reduces and voltage improves while the LCU ratio of weakest line using HBBO is 0.7835 and also security indices of OVSI, LSI, and BSI are in a good range even better than



**Fig. 5:** Voltage profile of network in all scenarios.

the base case. The line with LSI value near one or BSI value near zero is considered as the critical line. This value for LCU ratio shows that all of the lines, even the weakest line which has the maximum current, is in their allowed range. This proves that by taking into account the security aspect in the problem formulations as a factor of reliability helps the network to benefit from the reconfiguration tool for using the capacity of DERs.

The minimum voltage of network (see Table 4) demonstrate that security consideration can also help voltage improvement. Looking at Tables 4, and 5, with taking the security into account (in the formulations) helps to securely utilize DERs in the network. Comparison of HBBO and GA results in scenario 3, which is more complex than the other scenarios, indicates that HBBO algorithm outperforms GA in hard optimization problems and is especially suitable for our problem. Voltage profiles for all scenarios are shown in Fig. 5, and as seen, in scenario 3, the best performance can be achieved where the voltage profile of the system improves significantly.



**Fig. 6:** 83-bus network of TPC with DERs locations.



#### 4.2 83-bus distribution network of TPC

To evaluate the performance of the proposed method for larger practical distribution networks, other studies are carried out on 83-bus distribution network of TPC, depicted in Fig. 6 [40]. This network is a 11.4 kV system with 11 feeders. The line and load data could be found in [40]. Similar to the previous test network, it is assumed that all lines have sectionalizing switches, so there are 83 sectionalizing switches, and 13 tie switches in the network. Totally, 10 DERs on the buses 5, 7, 12, 20, 28, 39, 53, 60, 76, and 83 with maximum power capacity of 500 kW are considered in this network. For failure rates of the lines, similar approach of the previous test network is used. End-user data are given in Table 6. Other parameters are same as the previous test network.

**Table 6** End-user data of 83-bus network of TPC

Bus Number	Number of End-Users	Bus Number	Number of End-Users	Bus Number	Number of End-Users
1	0	29	100	57	15
2	50	30	0	58	200
3	350	31	400	59	0
4	300	32	100	60	10
5	400	33	100	61	10
6	800	34	500	62	100
7	600	35	150	63	250
8	450	36	200	64	250
9	450	37	50	65	0
10	450	38	50	66	25
11	0	39	50	67	0
12	300	40	50	68	200
13	350	41	250	69	0
14	350	42	200	70	0
15	0	43	0	71	700
16	150	44	15	72	200
17	250	45	300	73	0
18	350	46	100	74	0
19	600	47	0	75	200
20	450	48	0	76	100
21	300	49	0	77	0
22	100	50	50	78	100
23	100	51	100	79	100
24	100	52	250	80	50
25	25	53	250	81	250
26	25	54	250	82	50
27	25	55	200	83	500
28	700	56	0		

Results of applying HBBO to the reconfiguration problem of 83-bus TPC network, are given in Tables 7 and 8. Similar to the previous studies, by comparing scenarios 1 and 2, we can see by using the proposed framework which includes the security aspect in the reliability formulations, not only the security indices i.e. OVSI, LSI, and BSI are not violated but also the minimum voltage of the network is improved. Besides, in scenario 3 where the DERs are actively generate power in the network, by simultaneously performing network reconfiguration and DERs sizing, the best condition is achieved where the power loss is minimized, voltage of the weakest bus and network reliability from both aspects of adequacy and security is improved. Also we can see the conditions for securely utilizing DERs in the network becomes provided by considering security aspect in the formulation of reliability improvement (see Tables 7 and 8). All in all, the conducted studies on 83-bus network of TPC, prove the applicability of the proposed method for large-scale distribution networks.

Normally in the power system operation and planning studies, there are some parameters that are based on the forecast values [41] and therefore are uncertain. The customers and substation loads are a sample of these uncertain parameters. Although, in this work it is supposed that the load values are fixed, but to tackle the load uncertainties, the worst-case scenario for the load demand is considered. The results obtained for the network configuration becomes more secure but lower optimal. Therefore, in our future work load and other influencing uncertainties will be considered by a proper stochastic approach [42–44].

**Table 7** Results of the conducted study on 83-bus network of TPC

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Open switches	84-85-86- 87-88-89- 90-91-92- 93-94-95- 96	7-13-33- 37-42-62- 82-84-86- 87-89-90- 92	7-13-14- 34-38-40- 63-71-83- 84-86-90- 92
SAIFI (failure/year)	1.1588	0.9798	0.82457
SAIDI (hour)	9.2707	7.8385	6.5966
AENS	12.4824	12.7322	10.0162
OVSI	0.67731	0.62531	0.60497
LSI	0.017974	0.017297	0.017374
BSI	0.74814	0.81081	0.83853
Power loss (kW)	531.994	478.332	416.5861
Voltage of the weakest bus (%)	92.85	94.88	95.63
LCU of the weakest line	1	0.9043	0.8653

**Table 8** Optimal sizes of DERs in 83-bus network of TPC (KW)

DER Location	Power Generation	DER Location	Power Generation
DER on bus 5	315.35	DER on bus 39	482.76
DER on bus 7	74.67	DER on bus 53	500
DER on bus 12	492.03	DER on bus 60	500
DER on bus 20	307.66	DER on bus 76	489.39
DER on bus 28	495.25	DER on bus 83	498.31

## 5 Conclusions

In a distribution network with DERs present, a comprehensive reliability assessment must be carried out on the two aspects of adequacy and security. However, achieving the best reliability is difficult since the presence of DERs can improve adequacy but it may also jeopardize the security of the network. We propose a simultaneous reconfiguration and DERs sizing framework to improve both DNAS aspects of the reliability problem. The suggested reconfiguration routine is based on graph theory. To tackle security concerns of DERs existence in the network, a combined bus and line security index is further used. Problem is formulated in an objective function and the powerful optimization method, i.e. HBBO, is used to optimize the presented objective function. Obtained results validates our claims that the reliability and power losses is largely improved using the proposed approach. In our future works, we will demonstrate the feasibility of applying the proposed method for distribution systems with secondary networks, and with different sources of uncertainties and unbalancing condition.

## 6 Acknowledgment

This work was supported in part by the InteGRIDy project. The inteGRIDy project has received funding from the European Union's H2020 research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No. 731268.

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## 8 Appendix

In order to obtain (16) from (15) and (14) the following steps are required:

$$I_{ij} = \frac{V_s - V_r}{r_{ij} + jx_{ij}} \quad (8.1)$$

$$I_{ij} = \frac{P_r - jQ_r}{V^*} \quad (8.2)$$

$$\frac{|V_s| \angle \delta_s - |V_r| \angle \delta_r}{r_{ij} + jx_{ij}} = \frac{P_r - jQ_r}{|V_r| \angle -\delta_r} \quad (8.3)$$

$$|V_s||V_r|(\angle \delta_s - \delta_r) - |V_r|^2 = (P_r - jQ_r)(r_{ij} + jx_{ij}) \quad (8.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (|V_s||V_r| \cos(\delta_s - \delta_r) - |V_r|^2) + j(|V_s||V_r| \sin(\delta_s - \delta_r)) \\ & = (P_r r_{ij} + Q_r x_{ij}) + j(P_r x_{ij} - Q_r r_{ij}) \end{aligned} \quad (8.5)$$

Real and imaginary parts in the both sides of the above equation can be separately equal to each other. Therefore, for real parts:

$$|V_s||V_r| \cos(\delta_s - \delta_r) = |V_r|^2 + P_r r_{ij} + Q_r x_{ij} \quad (8.6)$$

For imaginary parts

$$|V_s||V_r| \sin(\delta_s - \delta_r) = P_r x_{ij} - Q_r r_{ij} \quad (8.7)$$

By adding the squares of (8.6) and (8.7), and rearranging, the following equation is obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} & |V_r|^4 - |V_s|^2 |V_r|^2 + 2|V_r|^2 (P_r r_{ij} - Q_r x_{ij}) \\ & + (P_r^2 + Q_r^2)(r_{ij}^2 + x_{ij}^2) \end{aligned} \quad (8.8)$$

The above equation is given in (16)–(18)